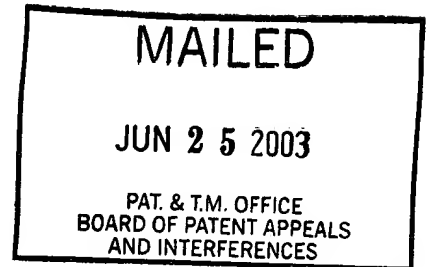


UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS
AND INTERFERENCES

Ex parte ALICE H. HOWE

Appeal No. 2003-1444
Application No. 09/655,743



ORDER REMANDING TO EXAMINER

A review of the file reveals that a Reply Brief was filed 5 May 2003 (Paper No. 16) in response to the Examiner' Answer entered 27 December 2002 (Paper No. 15). However, there is no indication on the record whether or not the examiner has responded to the Reply Brief. See Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 1208.03 (Eighth Edition, August 2001). Also, it is noted that Petitions for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) are not permitted for a Reply Brief. See 37 CFR § 1.194(b)(1).

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is remanded to the Examiner for such proper response to the Reply Brief and for such further action as may be appropriate.

Appeal No. 2003-1444
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It is important that the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences be promptly informed of any action affecting the appeal in this case.

By: 

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Appeal No. 2003-1444
Application 09/655,743

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